

Message Text

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PASS AID

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TAGS: EAID, US, CD

SUBJ: USG/GOC ACCELERATED IMPACT PROGRAM NEGOTIATIONS

REF: NDJAMENA 2220

1. SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS GALMAI YOUSSEUBOMI, ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER IN ABSENCE OF FONMIN KAMOUQUE WHO IS GOC REP AT NASC IN COLOMBO, REQUESTED MEETING AUGUST 19 WITH CHARGE ON SUBJECT ACCORD.

2. SECSTATE SAID THAT GOC ANXIOUS TO CONCLUDE AIP ACCORD SO THAT WORK COULD BEGIN ON THE SEVERAL PROJECTS WHICH HAVE BEEN AGREED UPON AT THE TECHNICAL LEVEL. GOC FULLY SATISFIED WITH TERMS OF AGREEMENT WITH SINGLE EXCEPTION OF LANGUAGE CLAUSE WHEREBY USG INSISTS THAT ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEXT SHALL GOVERN. THIS IS VERY DIFFICULT FOR GOC TO ACCEPT AS MATTER OF PRINCIPLE, ACCORDING TO SECSTATE, AND HE WISHED APPEAL TO USG ONCE AGAIN FOR RECONSIDERATION. CHARGE REPLIED THAT AIP ACCORD IS ESSENTIALLY SAME ACCORD AS NEGOTIATED WITH NUMBER OTHER COUNTRIES, THAT MOST OF ITS PROVISIONS ARE GOVERNED BY ENABLING LEGISLATION, AND THAT FOR THESE REASONS IT VERY DIFFICULT TAILOR EACH AGREEMENT TO PARTICULAR WISHES OF INDIVIDUAL COOPERATING COUNTRIES. CHARGE ALSO NOTED THAT IN ESSENCE AIP AGREEMENT SIMILAR TO R&R PROGRAMS WHICH HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY UNDERTAKEN IN CHAD FOR PAST SEVERAL YEARS AND ABOUT WHICH WE HAVE HAD NO MEANINGFUL DISAGREEMENTS ON TERMS. INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS UNDER

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THE TERMS OF THE OVERALL AGREEMENT CAN BE AND ARE TAILORED

PRECISELY TO NEEDS OF INDIVIDUAL RECIPIENT COUNTRIES, CHARGE CONTINUED, AND THE PROJECTS THEMSELVES OBVIOUSLY ARE THE IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF THE OVERALL PROGRAM. GALMAI EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING OF USG POSITION, BUT AGAIN HOPED THAT COMPROMISE ON LANGUAGE QUESTION MIGHT BE WORKED OUT.

2. COMMENT: THIS IS SIMPLY A MATTER OF PRIDE FOR THE CHADIANS, BUT IT IS APPARENTLY SUFFICIENTLY IMPORTANT FOR THEM THAT THEY HAVE BEEN WILLING TO SACRIFICE A NUMBER OF WEEKS DURING WHICH THE MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS VIRTUALLY BEEN UNDER SIEGE FROM THE TECHNICAL MINISTRIES WHO WISH TO GET ON WITH THE JOB. (THE LATTER HAVE INCLUDED, INCIDENTALLY, FOREIGN MINISTER KAMOUGUE'S OWN BROTHER, WHO AS DIRECTOR OF SODELAC IS CONSTANTLY PRESSING HIS LAKE CHAD/BOLS CHANNEL PROJECT.) WE BELIEVE, ON THE OTHER HAND, THAT MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS PROBLEMS WITH PRESIDENCY WHERE PRIDE ON OCCASION CAN REACH GAULLIST PROPORTIONS ON QUESTIONS OF PRESUMED NATIONAL DIGNITY. WE HAVE NOT PREVIOUSLY INSISTED ON ENGLISH LANGUAGE PREDOMINANCE, IN PART BECAUSE WE OURSELVES WRITE THE FRENCH AS WELL AS THE ENGLISH TEXT AND IN PART BECAUSE WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT OUR OWN INTERPRETATION WILL PREVAIL OF WHATEVER TEXT WILL BE FINAL DETERMINANT IN ANY SIGNIFICANT DISAGREEMENT. WE ALSO NOTE (AND WONDER WHEN THE CHADIANS MIGHT DISCOVER) THAT LANGUAGE NOT MENTIONED IN OTHER AREA AID BILATERALS (SUCH AS NIGER) AND THAT IN OTHERS (SUCH AS CAMEROON) ENGLISH AND FRENCH LANGUAGES EACH DETERMINE INTERPRETATION OF RESPECTIVE TEXTS. IN REFTEL, ACTING CDO HAS PROPOSED BOILER PLATE WHICH WE THINK WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO SELL. HOPE AID/W CAN AGREE PROPOSAL REFTEL OR SUGGEST OTHER COMPROMISE ON LANGUAGE QUESTION WHICH WE CAN PUT TO GOC.DWYER

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